

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 IGA-02 /025 R

DRAFTED BY LA/DR/EST:SAPPLEGATE:OG

APPROVED BY AA/LA:HKLEINE

ARA/LA/NC; MKRANZ

LA/DR,DLION

LA/DR:RSIMPSON

LA/DR:RVENEZIA

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P 241603Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: ACPO SERVICES

1. MSGR. SALCEDO MET WITH MR. KLEINE ON FEBRUARY 10 TO DISCUSS SEVERAL AID PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION WHICH WOULD EXPAND ACPO SERVICES WITHIN COLOMBIA AND EXTEND SOME OF THEM TO THE REST OF LATIN AMERICA. PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE SALCEDO, KLEINE, APPELEGATE AND KRANZ.

2. SALCEDO MADE A RATHER EXTENDED PRESENTATION OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING THE ACPO/RADIO SUTATENZA PROGRAM OVER THE LAST TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS. HE SAID THAT THE KEY TO ALL OF THEIR EFFORTS WAS TO ENCOURAGE THE RURAL POOR TO LOOK TO THEMSELVES RATHER THAN TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS. HE SAID THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN INSTILLING AMONG THE PEASANTS FEELINGS OF SELF WORTH, SELF REALIZATION AND THE DIGNITY OF WORK WHICH OVER TIME CAN BE, HE FEELS, THE STRONGEST BARRIER TO MARXISM OR OTHER AUTHORITARIAN GOVERNMENT.

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3. SALCEDO SAID THAT ACPO IS IN A SERIOUS FINANCIAL CRISIS DUE TO THE INFLATION RATE OF THIRTY PERCENT AND THE INCREASE IN COST OF PAPER OF 350 PERCENT. HE SAID THAT THE GOC ALSO

HAS SERIOUS FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, AND AS A CONSEQUENCE THE GOC IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE AILING ACPO.

4. SALCEDO SAID THAT THE THREE PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY AID AND THE POSSIBLE USE OF SPTF FUNDS WOULD HELP SOLVE THE ACPO CRISIS. MR. KLEINE SAID THAT THE PROCEDURES TO MAKE USE OF SPTF FUNDS WERE STILL SO COMPLEX THAT NO DECISION COULD BE MADE IN THE NEAR FUTURE ABOUT THEIR POSSIBLE USE FOR ACPO. HE ALSO SAID THAT ALL AID PROJECTS REQUIRE SUBSTANTIAL COUNTERPART FUNDS AND THAT THE INSTITUTION WHICH IS TO CARRY OUT THE PROJECT MUST HAVE DEMONSTRATED STABILITY. THE NEW PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF ACPO WHICH AID HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION WILL REQUIRE DOCUMENTATION TO ASSURE AID THAT ACPO IS A FINANCIALLY VIABLE INSTITUTION. DECONTROL AFTER FEBRUARY 19, 1977. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INFORMATION MEDIA, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE044083
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SAPPLEGATE:OG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760069-0233
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760218/aaaaapdc.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 JUL 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACPO SERVICES
TAGS: SOPN, CO, APCO
To: BOGOTA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006